

REMARKS

Applicants submit herewith an English translation of the PCT application (NUT-042-WO) and have amended the claims in order to reduce the initial filing fee by deleting the multiple dependent claims from the application. Applicants retain the right to reintroduce any subject matter canceled by the present Amendment at any time during the prosecution of this application or any further application claiming benefit of this application. Applicants also replaced the original Abstract with a new Abstract which is attached at the end of this Amendment.

Applicants are submitting herewith a copy of the Search Report which issued on International Application No. PCT/EP03/00980, of which the present application is the U.S. national phase. All of the publications cited in the International Search Report are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. It is Applicants' understanding that, under the procedures of the PCT, copies of the cited publications will have been supplied to the U.S. Patent Office by the International Bureau. However, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if additional copies are necessary or would facilitate examination of the present application.

Otherwise, the Examiner is respectfully requested to return an initialed and dated copy of the attached Form PTO-1449 to confirm that all publications listed thereon have been considered and made officially of record in the file of this application.

Applicants understand that, under the procedures of the PCT, a copy of the priority document (DE 102 04 000.1, filed February 1, 2002) will have been supplied to the U.S. Patent Office pursuant to Rule 17 of the PCT Regulations. It is therefore respectfully requested that the first Official Action in the present application contain an indication that the appropriate priority document is in the file of this application.

U.S. National Phase of PCT/EP03/00980
Preliminary Amendment dated: July 29, 2004

In view of the above amendments, an early action on the application is now in order and is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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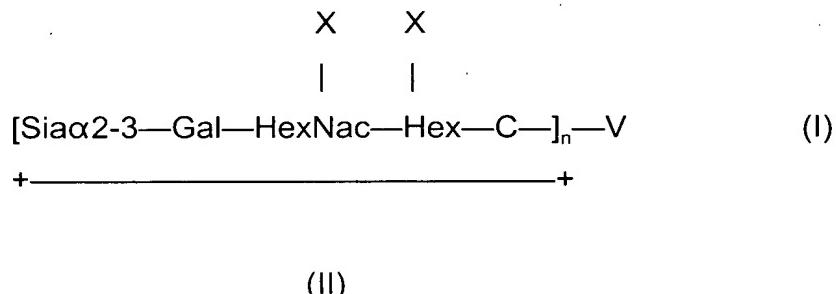
DATE: July 30, 2004

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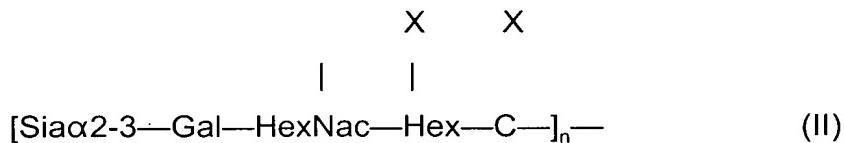
ABSTRACT

Described is the use of sialic carbohydrates having formula I having at least one carbohydrate unit of the following general formula II:



wherein

V represents OH, a carbohydrate residue or a connecting point on a carrier T, with the proviso that if V represents OH, n represents 1, and, if V represents a carbohydrate residue or a carrier T, n means the number of the carbohydrate units that are each directly bound to this carbohydrate residue or carrier and which are of the general formula II



for the immunomodulation, immunosuppression and prevention as well as treatment of infections in humans and animals.